fit per maund for the last three years on account of the sale of Tinnevelly salt was annas 3 and pies 6 per maund. The above figures do not exclude the cost incurred by the State on account of establishment and supervision charges, the loss due to wastage, etc.

(c) (i) The stock of salt in the Alleppey and Quilon Depôts at the time of calling for tenders for the current contract was 2,04,531 maunds and 2,65,953 maunds respectively.

(ii) The stock of salt available in the factories in South Travancore at the time of calling for these tenders was 4,44,643 maunds and not 8 lakhs as stated by the member.

(iii) The average consumption of salt in the State per year based on the figures of the past three years is 10,81,518 maunds.

(iv) The stock of salt available in the depôts and the factories was duly taken into consideration in deciding upon the quantities of foreign salt fixed for import into the State. It may be added that provision is usually made for keeping a reserve stock of salt equal to the requirements of the State for 18 months.

(v) The probable yield of the Purattasi pani of 1097 was taken into consideration in estimating the quantities of foreign salt required. The probable yield of Thye pani was not taken into account, as that salt would not be ripe for transport during the year.

(d) The contract rates for 1097 are given below :—

(1) For supply of Bombay salt at Alleppey—Bh. Rs. 58 per 100 maunds.

(2) For supply of Tinnevelly salt at Alleppey— Bh. Re 0-10-7 5/7 pies per maund.

(3) For supply of Tinnevelly salt at Quilon—Bh. Re. 0-8-3 pies per maund.

**Mr. S. Adam Sait.**

5. Q.—(a) How many head clerks, clerks and overseers are there under the Trivandrum Municipality? How many among them possess the requisite qualifications prescribed in the Public Service Notification?

(b) What proportion of the total receipts of this Municipality, exclusive of Government grant, is being spent on account of salaries, allowances and establishment?

**Secretary Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.**

5. A.—(a) The clerical staff in the Trivandrum Municipal and Health Offices consists of one clerk on Rs. 30, 3 on Rs. 20 each, 3 on Rs. 15 each, and one on Rs. 10. There are ten overseers on Rs. 10 each, and 15 on Rs. 9 each. Of the clerks four possess the examination qualification prescribed by the Public Service Notification. No overseer holds the qualification prescribed by the Public Service Notification for overseers.

(b) The receipts for 1096, exclusive of Government grant, amounted to Rs. 53,275-7-10. The total expenditure under salaries, establishment and allowances was Rs. 22,437-14-9, being 42 per cent. of the above receipts.

**Mr. S. Adam Sait.**

6. Q.- (a) Will the Government be pleased to state what action, if any, they have taken with reference to the representations made to them praying for the abolition of taxation in kind in respect of the Pandaravaka properties attached to Sreepadam in the Chirayinkil taluk?

(b) Are the Government aware that representations made to Sreepadam in the above matter have not been considered, and, if so, will the Government state what action they propose to take to give relief to the ryots of the Chirayinkil taluk holding lands attached to Sreepadam as those enjoying other Pandaravaka lands?

**Chief Secretary Mr. N. Rajaram Rao.**

6. A.—(a) The following reply has been given to the representations of the ryots in question:—

"As the lands in question form the separate property of Her Highness the Senior Rani, Government cannot interfere without Her Highness' express wish and consent, and it is Her Highness that the petitioners should approach".

(b) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative.

**Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai.**

7. Q.—(a) With reference to the statement contained in the Press Communique dated

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the 2nd September 1921, that "Government find it difficult to attribute such unruly and lawless conduct to this cause (enhancement of school-fees) and wonder whether the pupils are not being deliberately misled and used by mischief-makers for their own purposes", will the Government be pleased to state whether they have instituted any enquiry into what they suspect to be the real cause of the students' strike and whether they have made any attempt to trace the "mischief-makers" and their object? If so, will the Government be pleased to state the nature of the investigation held by them and the result thereof?

Has any action been taken by Government against the said "mischief-makers"?

(*b*) In view of the importance of the question and to prevent the recurrence of such events in the future, do the Government propose to appoint a committee of enquiry to carefully investigate the origin and causes of the students' strike and the events that followed therefrom?

**Chief Secretary Mr. N. Rajaram Rao.**

7. A.—(*a*) The inference referred to in the question was based upon information before Government. Whether any further action is to be taken is a matter upon which Government are unable to make any statement at present.

(*b*) The member is referred to the answer to question 8 (*c*), (*d*) and (*e*).

**Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai.**

8. Q.—(*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the discrepancies between the non-official statement published by Mr. A. Narayana Pillai and five other citizens of Trivandrum on the 24th September 1921 and the Government Press Communiqué dated the 24th September 1921 regarding the incidents that took place in the Arts College compound and its vicinity on the 5th Kanni 1097?

(*b*) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the representations made by the public and the press both in and outside Travancore urging the necessity of appointing an impartial committee of officials and non-officials to institute an enquiry into the matter above referred to?

(*c*) Do the Government propose to appoint such a committee? If not, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for their decision?

(*d*) Has the District Magistrate of Trivandrum submitted any report to Government regarding the incidents that took place in the College compound on the 5th Kanni 1097, and, if so, was it received before the Press Communiqué of the 24th September was issued by Government? Will the Government be pleased to place the above-said report on the table?

(*e*) In case Government do not propose to appoint a committee of enquiry, will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points with reference to their Press Communiqué dated the 24th September:—

(i) What are the records on the basis of which the above-said communiqué was prepared? Are they such as can be placed before the Council? If so, will they kindly place the same on the table?

(ii) Have the Government conducted any independent investigation into the method adopted by the Police to disperse the crowd and have they enquired whether the Police have been guilty of any excesses? If so, will the Government be pleased to state the nature of the investigation and the result thereof? Will the Government kindly place the papers relating to the subject on the table?

(iii) Is it a fact that most of the Policemen who entered the College compound on the said date to disperse the crowd did not wear their numbers on their turbans? If so, will the Government be pleased to state what action they have taken in regard to that matter?

**Chief Secretary Mr. N. Rajaram Rao.**

8. A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes.

(*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) In view of the circumstance that certain incidents connected with or arising out of the strike are *sub judice*, Government regret that they are unable to make any statement beyond saying that the Government Press Communiqué of the 24th September 1921 was based *inter alia* on the report and the representations of the District Magistrate and was revised by him before issue.

**Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai.**

9. Q.—Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing—

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